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Message Text

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42
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 AID-20 AGR-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 NIC-01

/183 W
---------- 020063
R 070730Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5249
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, GB, TW
SUBJ: SINO-GABONESE RELATIONS

REF: LIBREVILLE 270 (NOTAL)

1. IN MOVE WHICH CAME AS NO SURPRISE LOCALLY, GOG ANNOUNCED OFFICIALLY MARCH 5 DE JURE RECOGNITION OF PRC AND SIMULTANEOUS BREAK WITH ROC (REFTEL).

2. MEDIA COMMENTARY MARCH 6 STRESSED (A) ROC HAD "NOT KEPT ITS PROMISES";(B) IMPORTANCE OF PRC INTERNATIONALLY; AND (C) PRESIDENT BONGO'S DESIRE "FREELY CHOOSE HIS FRIENDS" WITHIN POLICY FRAMEWORK OF "OPENNESS."

3. CHINESE AMBASSADOR HUANG TOLD AMERICAN AMBASSADOR HE HAD BEEN SUMMONED TO FONOFF MORNING MARCH 5, AND INFORMED BY RAWIRI AND OKUMBA (OLD AND NEW MINISTERS OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS WHO RECEIVED HIM JOINTLY) OF GOG DECISION.
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4. NO TIME LIMIT WAS MENTIONED BUT HUANG TOLD HE WOULD
BE RECEIVING NOTE FROM FONOFF WITH "DETAILS." THERE WAS
NO DISCUSSION OF SUGAR FACTORY OR CHINESE AID AND HUANG
MERELY TOLD MINISTERS HE REGRETTED DECISION, WOULD REPORT
IT TO TAPIEI, AND LEAVE AS FRIEND OF GABON.

5. UNLESS GOG NOTE REQUIRES EARLIER DEPARTURE, HUANG
SAID HE WOULD PROBABLY LEAVE WITHIN TWO WEEKS AND ROC
EMBASSY SECRETARIES AND AGRICULTURAL TEAM WOULD LEAVE WITHIN TWO
MONTHS.
MCKESSON

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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